

County Snapshots are published by the Labor Market Information Division (LMID) of the California Employment Development Department (EDD) to provide a labor force profile of California counties and highlight employment trends and growth. The LMID regularly collects, analyzes, and publishes information about California's labor market, which consists of approximately 17 million workers and more than one million employers. In addition to employment and unemployment data, the LMID provides economic planning information, industry and occupational information, social and demographic information, and a host of other statistics.

County Snapshots include Benchmark labor force data and industry employment. Labor force data assess and calculate California's civilian labor force, employment, unemployment, and unemployment rate. These data are based on the place of residence. Industry employment data provide counts of the number of persons employed by industry, based on place of work, as classified by the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS).

The new North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) replaces the previously used Standard Industrial Classification (SIC). Many industries are not comparable between the SIC and NAICS classification systems. NAICS identifies hundreds of new, emerging, and advanced technology industries. NAICS also reorganizes industries into more meaningful sectors—especially in the service-providing segments of the economy.

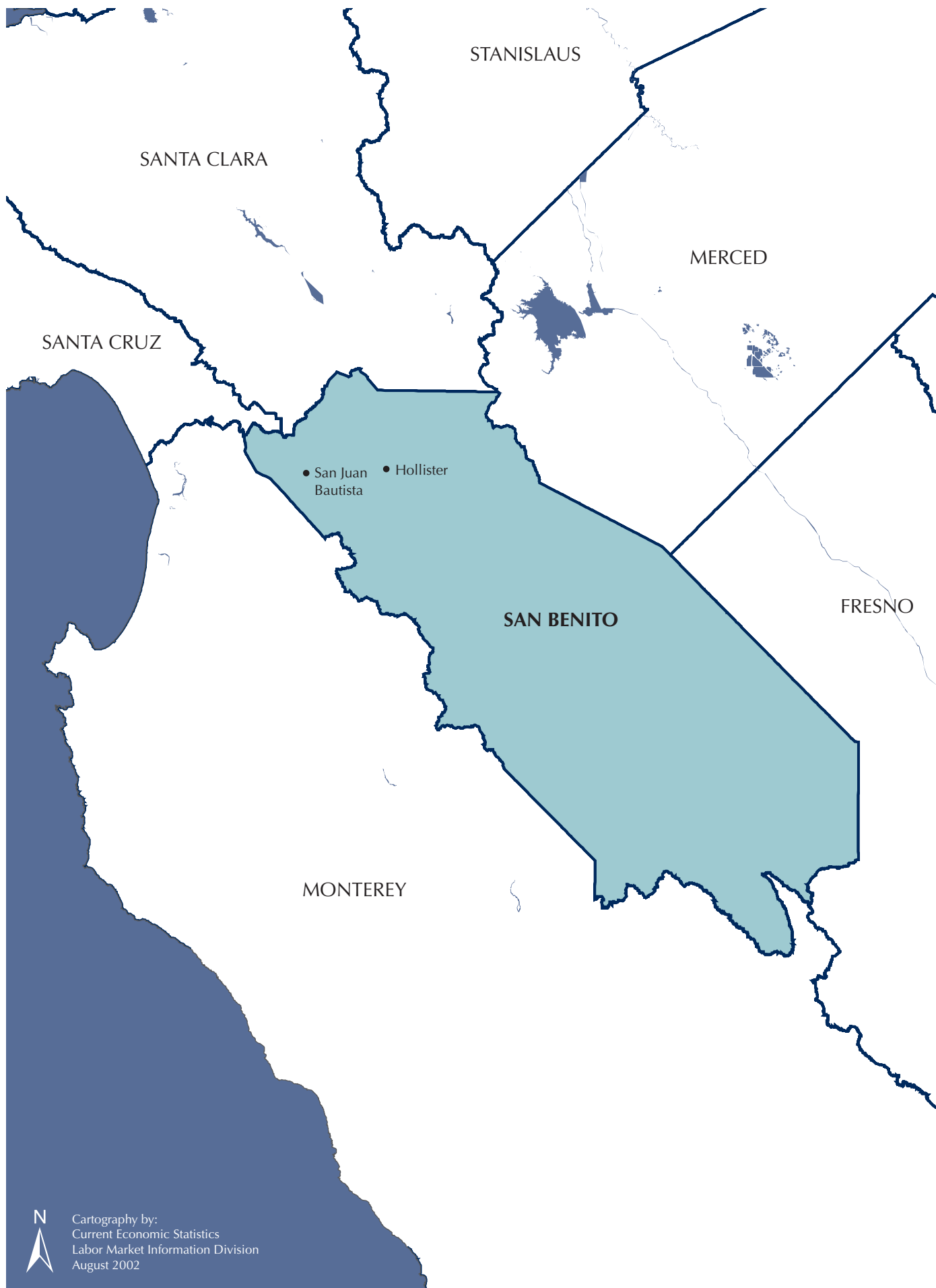
Due to this conversion, county-level industry employment data for California counties belonging to a Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) were not available at the time of publication. Data provided in the 2003 *County Snapshots* for these counties reflect the multi-county data. Additional changes in this year's publication include an expanded occupational analysis, using SIC-based industry and occupational projections. The incorporation of NAICS with projections data is scheduled for the summer of 2004.

A complete explanation of these data and additional information are available from the LMID's Web site located at www.calmis.ca.gov. Additional *County Snapshots* and contact information for local labor market consultants may also be obtained through LMID at (916) 262-2162.



Contents

Labor Force	4
Industry Employment	5
Occupational Employment	7
California Labor Market	11





San Benito County was created in 1874 from an inland portion of Monterey County. On an expedition in 1772, the explorer Crespi named a small river in honor of San Benidicto, the patron saint of the married; it is from the contraction of this name that San Benito Valley and San Benito County derived their names.

San Benito County lies between the Gabilan and Diablo Mountain ranges. Much of the northern part is a flat plain—the southernmost reaches of the Santa Clara Valley. The county's 1,397 square miles range in elevation from near sea level to almost 5,000-feet high.

San Benito County is located in California's central region. Bordered to the north by Santa Cruz and Santa Clara, San Benito also shares boundaries with Merced and Fresno to the east, and Monterey County to the south and west.

Department of Finance estimates San Benito County's population at 56,300, an increase of 700 residents over 2002 figures, growth of 1.3 percent. Hollister, the largest city and county seat, recorded 1.2 percent growth, gaining 450 new residents in 2002. The city of San Juan Bautista is estimated to have reached a population of 1,610. By the year 2020, San Benito's total population is projected to reach 86,800, an increase of more than 54 percent over current figures.

The 2002 civilian labor force in San Benito County declined to 27,890, a loss of 50 from the previous year. The county's 2002 annual average unemployment rate increased to 10 percent, higher than California's rate of 6.7 percent for the same year.

Government is the county's largest industry employer. Annual average 2002 employment shows that government accounted for the largest share of employment (3,000), which is almost 20 percent of the county's total (15,110). Within government, the majority of jobs (2,660) were in the local government component, which includes local education, city and county government, and Indian Tribal government employment.

Despite declines in 2002, the county's trade, transportation and utilities industry accounted for more than 17 percent of employment. Within the industry, retail trade provided the majority of employment, with most of the jobs in the miscellaneous store retailers component.

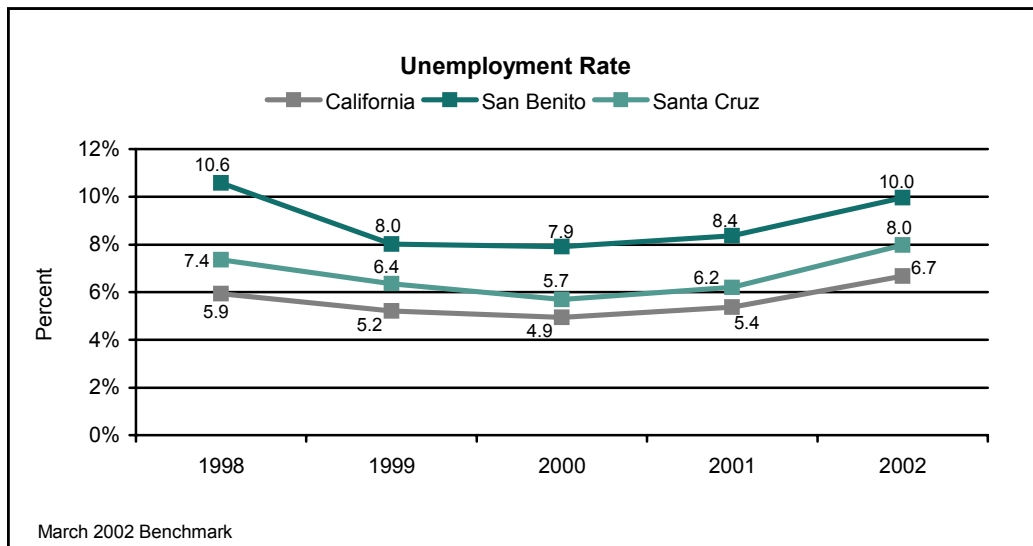
Historically, San Benito is a largely agricultural county, possessing a varying landscape of vineyards, crop land, fruit and nut orchards, and grazing pastures for cattle and sheep. The agricultural industry supported 16 percent of industry employment in 2002. Among the county's top crops, lettuce and nursery stock lead by production value, with winegrapes, bell peppers, and cattle following. Since 1998, San Benito's agricultural industries have added 420 new jobs, growth of 21 percent.

After four years of growth, manufacturing posted job decline in 2002. However, the industry has added 260 jobs overall since 1998 and provided more than 15 percent of all employment. Within the industry, durable goods manufacturing employs 1,640, and nondurable goods manufacturing employs 700.

San Benito County's labor market future brings new opportunities and challenges to the region. In addition to industry growth, out-of-county employment is a significant factor in the local economy, as many residents commute to Santa Cruz, Monterey, and Santa Clara counties. In addition, residential expansion and development of transportation systems continue to encourage economic development and support job growth.

LABOR FORCE

Civilian unemployment includes individuals who are not working but are able, available, and actively looking for work. Individuals who are waiting to be recalled from a layoff, and individuals waiting to report to a new job are also considered to be unemployed. The **unemployment rate** is the number of unemployed as a percentage of the labor force. Over the years 1998 to 2000, San Benito County's unemployment rate dropped a total of 2.7 percentage points. Then, in 2001 and 2002, the county realized increased unemployment. Santa Cruz County and California's unemployment rates followed a similar pattern, although the rates were lower.

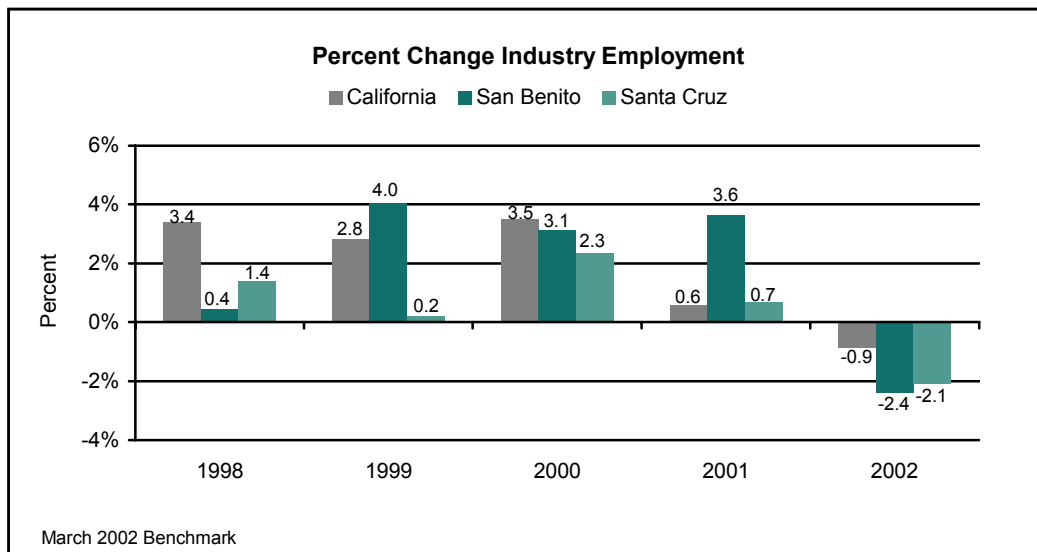


Labor force data, as shown below, accounts for civilians who are age 16 or older and who are working or looking for work. San Benito County's annual average figures show a gain in labor force of 1,600 persons since 1998. **Employment** and **unemployment** figures reflect the employment status of individuals by **place of residence**. Counts of employment by **place of work** are referred to as **industry employment** totals (see pages 5 and 6.)

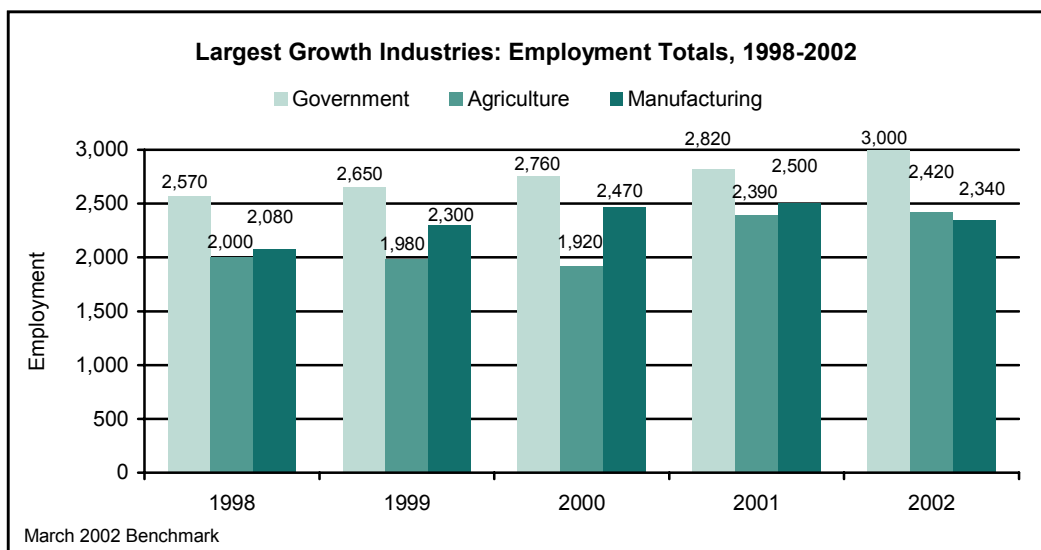
Labor Force Statistics	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
Labor Force	26,290	26,430	27,050	27,940	27,890
Employment	23,510	24,310	24,910	25,600	25,110
Unemployment	2,780	2,120	2,140	2,340	2,780
Unemployment Rate	10.6%	8.0%	7.9%	8.4%	10.0%

2002 Benchmark

During the years 1998–2001, San Benito recorded consistent job growth, adding 1,550 jobs. In 2002, the county recorded a loss of 370 jobs, declining by 2.4 percentage points. The greatest job loss (-400) occurred in trade, transportation and utilities. Other industries recording declines included: manufacturing (-160); educational and health services (-70); and leisure and hospitality (-40). Losses in these industries were partially offset by gains in government (180); professional and business services (90); financial activities and other services (40 each); agriculture (30); and information (10).



During the 1998–2002 period, San Benito County’s largest growth industries were government, agriculture, and manufacturing. Government added 430 jobs, with local government accounting for 93 percent (400 jobs). The agriculture industry experienced significant growth, with the addition of 420 jobs, a 21 percent increase over 1998 figures. In manufacturing, growth of 260 jobs concentrated in durable goods manufacturing (up 330 jobs).



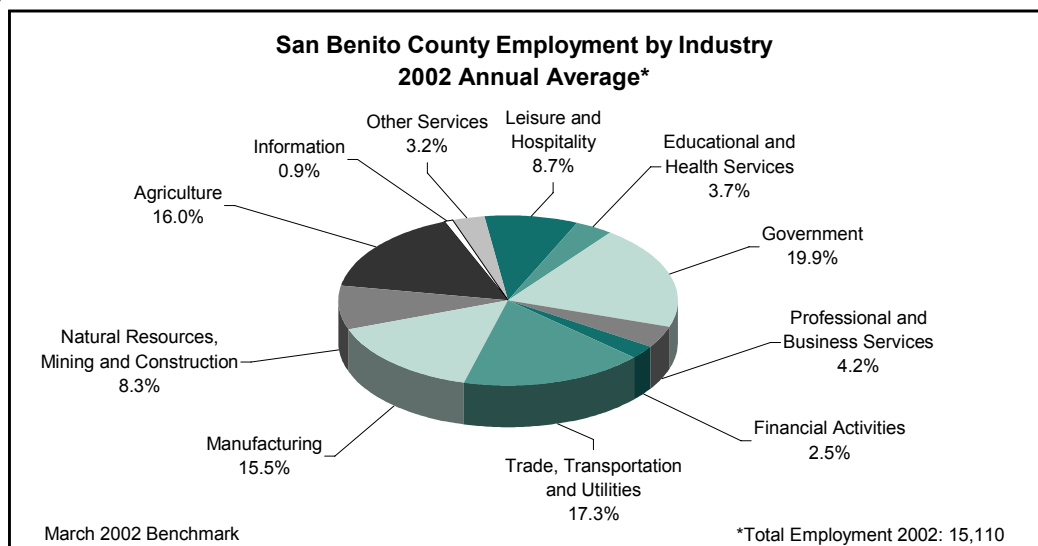
INDUSTRY EMPLOYMENT

In the table below, San Benito County's **industry employment** totals are given for the period 1998-2002, showing overall growth in most industries, with the exception of financial activities, educational and health services, and leisure and hospitality. In the year 2002, government, trade, transportation and utilities, and agriculture were the county's largest

Employment by Industry	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
Agriculture	2,000	1,980	1,920	2,390	2,420
Natural Resources, Mining and Const.	1,160	1,370	1,480	1,330	1,250
Manufacturing	2,080	2,300	2,470	2,500	2,340
Trade, Transportation and Utilities	2,510	2,660	2,900	3,010	2,610
Information	80	90	100	120	130
Financial Activities	440	430	410	340	380
Professional and Business Services	600	570	510	550	640
Education and Health Services	670	630	670	630	560
Leisure and Hospitality	1,530	1,500	1,420	1,360	1,320
Other Services	300	310	320	440	480
Government	2,570	2,650	2,760	2,820	3,000
Industry Employment Total*	13,930	14,490	14,940	15,480	15,110

2002 Benchmark

employers. Together, these industries accounted for more than 53 percent (8,030) of the county's industry employment (15,110). Government, the largest employer, provided 3,000 jobs (19.9 percent), while trade transportation and utilities accounted for 2,610 jobs (17.3 percent). Agriculture contributed 16.0 percent to the total.



*Totals may not add, due to rounding.

Construction and Mining is the largest growth industry in San Benito County, as forecast by industry projections using the Standard Industrial Classification system (SIC).^{*} As defined by the SIC, construction includes new work, additions, alterations, reconstruction, installations, and repairs. Three types of construction are covered: building construction by general contractors; heavy construction; and construction activity by other special trade contractors. Special trade contractors are primarily engaged in specialized construction activities, such as plumbing, painting, and electrical work.

Largest Projected Growth Industries 1999–2006

	Percent Growth	Job Growth
Construction and Mining	48.4%	620
Wholesale and Retail Trade	31.4%	1,160
Manufacturing	30.0%	660

Carpenters

1999–2006 Projected Job Openings – 79

Salary Mean Annual Wage – \$46,291; Median Hourly Wage – \$21.79

Nature Of Work Construct, erect, install, or repair structures and fixtures made of wood, such as concrete forms, building frameworks, including partitions, joists, studding, and rafters; wood stairways, window and door frames, and hardwood floors. May install cabinets, siding, drywall, and batt or roll installation.

Education Long-term on-the-job training.

Painters, Construction and Maintenance; Paperhangers

1999–2006 Projected Job Openings – 36

Salary **Painters, Construction and Maintenance** Mean Annual Wage – \$30,852; Median Hourly Wage – \$21.79. **Paperhangers** – \$45,754; – \$22.51.

Nature Of Work **Painters, Construction and Maintenance** workers paint walls, equipment, buildings, bridges, and other structural surfaces, using brushes, rollers, and spray guns. May remove old paint to prepare surface prior to painting. May mix colors or oils to obtain desired color or consistency. **Paperhangers** cover interior walls and ceilings of rooms with decorative wallpaper or fabric, or attach advertising posters on surfaces, such as walls, and billboards. Duties include removing old materials from surface to be papered.

Education Moderate-term on-the-job training.



Helpers/Production Workers

1999–2006 Projected Job Openings – 39

Salary Mean Annual Wage – \$24,628; Median Hourly Wage – \$11.56

Nature Of Work Help production workers by performing duties of lesser skill. Duties include supplying or holding materials or tools, and cleaning work area and equipment. Examples: Welder's Assistant; Tailor's Aide; Millwright's Helper.

Education Short-term on-the-job training.

Electricians

1999–2006 Projected Job Openings – 21

Salary Mean Annual Wage – \$43,730; Median Hourly Wage – \$20.33

Nature Of Work Install, maintain, and repair electrical wiring, equipment, and fixtures. Ensure that work is in accordance with relevant codes. May install or service streetlights, intercom systems, or electrical control systems.

Education Long-term on-the-job training.

^{*}The projections of employment by industry and occupation will incorporate NAICS codes with the release of the 2002-2012 data in Summer 2004.

OCCUPATIONAL EMPLOYMENT

The second-largest growth industry in San Benito, *Wholesale Trade and Retail Trade* is forecast to add 1,160 jobs during the 1999–2006 projection period.* As defined by the SIC, wholesale trade establishments sell goods to trading establishments, or to industrial, commercial, institutional, farm, construction contractors, or professional business users. Retail trade includes employment in areas such as building materials and garden supplies; general merchandise stores; food stores; automotive dealers and service stations; apparel and accessory stores; furniture and home furnishings stores; eating and drinking places; and other miscellaneous retail.

Sales Representatives, Wholesale and Manufacturing, Technical and Scientific Products

1999–2006 Projected Job Openings – 90

Salary Mean Annual Wage – \$73,752; Median Hourly Wage – \$37.51

Nature Of Work Sell goods for wholesalers or manufacturers where technical or scientific knowledge is required in such areas as biology, engineering, chemistry, and electronics, normally obtained from at least two years of post-secondary education.

Education Moderate-term-on-the-job training.



Truck Drivers, Light or Delivery Services

1999–2006 Projected Job Openings – 34

Salary Mean Annual Wage – \$27,117 ; Median Hourly Wage – \$12.52

Nature Of Work Drive a truck or a van with a capacity under 26,000 Gross Vehicle Weight, primarily to deliver or pick up merchandise or to deliver packages within a specified area. May require use of automatic routing or location software. May load and unload truck.

Education Short-term on-the-job training.

Cashiers

1999–2006 Projected Job Openings – 113

Salary Mean Annual Wage – \$16,208; Median Hourly Wage – \$7.32

Nature Of Work Receive and disburse money in establishments other than financial institutions. Usually involves use of electronic scanners, cash registers, or related equipment. Often involved in processing credit or debit card transactions and validating checks. Examples: Auction Clerk; Toll Collector; Disbursement Clerk.

Education Short-term on-the-job training.

Retail Salespersons

1999–2006 Projected Job Openings – 89

Salary Mean Annual Wage – \$20,336; Median Hourly Wage – \$8.22

Nature Of Work Sell merchandise, such as furniture, appliances, or apparel in retail establishment. Examples: Car Dealer; Wallpaper Salesperson.

Education Short-term on-the-job training.

*The projections of employment by industry and occupation will incorporate NAICS codes with the release of the 2002–2012 data in Summer 2004.

Manufacturing is the third largest growth industry in San Benito, according to the 1999–2006 industry projections.* San Benito County is estimated to experience growth of 30 percent or 660 jobs in this industry during the seven-year period. Manufacturing employment consists of establishments such as plants, factories, or mills, which characteristically use power driven machines and materials handling equipment. Some of the subindustry groupings include: food and kindred products; textile mill products; apparel and other finished products; lumber and wood products; furniture and fixtures; paper and allied products; printing, publishing and allied industries; chemicals and allied products; and leather and leather products, among others.

Assemblers, Fabricators (except Machine, Electrical)

1999–2006 Projected Job Openings – 97

Salary **Fiberglass Laminators and Fabricators** Mean Annual Wage – \$26,446; Median Hourly Wage – \$11.19. **Team Assemblers** – \$22,238; – \$9.92.

Assemblers and Fabricators (All Other) – \$21,003; – \$9.04.

Nature Of Work **Fiberglass Laminators and Fabricators** laminate layers of fiberglass on molds to form boat decks and hulls, bodies for golf carts, automobiles, or other products. **Team Assemblers** work as part of a team responsible for assembling an entire product or component of a product. Team assemblers can perform all tasks in the assembly process and rotate through all or most of them. **Assemblers and Fabricators (All Other)** includes all assemblers and fabricators not listed separately.

Education Short-term on-the-job training.

Helpers/Production Workers

1999–2006 Projected Job Openings – 91

Salary Mean Annual Wage – \$24,268; Median Hourly Wage – \$11.56

Nature Of Work Help production workers by performing duties of lesser skill. Duties include supplying or holding materials or tools, and cleaning work area and equipment. Examples: Welder's Assistant; Tailor's Aide; Millwright's Helper.

Education Short-term on-the-job training.



General Managers, Top Executives

1999–2006 Projected Job Openings – 30

Salary **Chief Executives** Median Hourly Wage – >\$53.85;

General and Operations Managers – \$77,637; Median Hourly Wage – \$35.27

Nature Of Work **Chief Executives** determine and formulate policies and provide overall direction of companies or private and public sector organizations within the guidelines set up by a board of directors of similar governing body. **General and Operations Managers** plan, direct, or coordinate the operations of companies or public and private sector organizations. Duties and responsibilities include formulating policies, managing daily operations, and planning the use of materials and human resources.

Education Work experience, plus a bachelor's or higher.

First-Line Supervisors, Managers of Production and Operating Workers

1999–2006 Projected Job Openings – 24

Salary Mean Annual Wage – \$50,653; Median Hourly Wage – \$23.48

Nature Of Work Supervise and coordinate activities of production and operating workers, such as inspectors, precision workers, machine setters and operators, assemblers, fabricators, and plant and system operators.

Education Work experience.

*The projections of employment by industry and occupation will incorporate NAICS codes with the release of the 2002-2012 data in Summer 2004.



COUNTY PROFILE

Population (by largest cities)

	2002	2003
Hollister	36,150	36,600
San Juan Bautista	1,590	1,610
County Total	55,600	56,300

Department of Finance¹

Unemployment Insurance

	2001	2002
Claims Paid	4,053	5,629
Total Amount Paid	\$8,459,436	\$14,742,428

EDD, UI Claims and Payment

Workforce Investment Act

	2001-2002	2002-2003
Adult	\$334,675	\$267,285
Youth	\$403,609	\$305,270
Dislocated Worker	\$351,341	\$285,555

EDD, Workforce Investment Division²

CalWORKS

	2001	2002
Total Participants	1,259	1,366

California Department of Social Services³

Additional County Data

	2000-2001	2001-2002
Community Colleges		
Vocational Education students	6,176	5,545
Transfer Prepared students	359	342
Basic Skills students	1,474	1,790
High School (9-12) Dropouts	48	43
Percentage of total students	1.5%	1.3%

California Community Colleges⁴

*California Department of Education
Educational Demographics Unit*

¹Data obtained from the State of California, Department of Finance: E-1 City/County Population Estimates, with Annual Percentage Change, January 1, 2002 and 2003.

²Data included are from WIA Final Allocations for Program Year 2001-2002 and 2002-2003.

³Data obtained from the California Department of Social Services, Research and Development Division, Data Systems and Survey Design Bureau's CalWORKs Cash Grant Caseload Movement and Expenditures Report for the month of December.

⁴Data included are from the Performance on Partnership for Excellence Goals, California Community Colleges, Chancellor's Office. They represent combined totals from the Gavilan Joint Community College District, not located in but serving San Benito County through off-campus sites and distance education..

California has 58 counties and a variety of industries that contribute to its economy. Information services, high-technology manufacturing, agriculture, and entertainment are a few examples of the broad range of economic productivity in the state.

In 2002, the civilian labor force grew by 221,700, an increase of 1.3 percent over 2001 figures, bringing the total labor force to more than 17.4 million persons. The unemployment rate increased from 5.4 percent in 2001 to 6.7 percent in 2002.

Overall, industry employment in California declined by 128,900 jobs in 2002. Industries recording job losses included professional and business services (60,500 jobs) and information services (53,500 jobs). Components of these industries reporting the largest declines include computer systems design and related services (-29,700 jobs); management of companies and enterprises (-18,800 jobs); Internet service providers and Web search portals (-17,900 jobs); and telecommunications (-12,100 jobs).

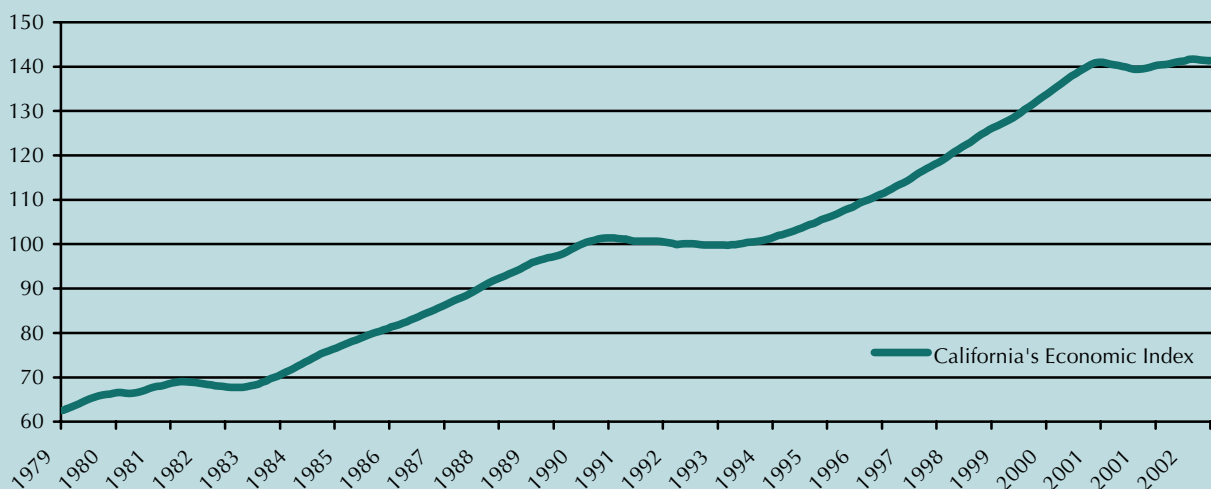
Industries reporting gains included government (66,000 jobs added) and education and health services (52,700 jobs gained). Within these growing industries, the majority of gains were in the following components: local government education (33,600 jobs); ambulatory health care services (22,400 jobs); county government (9,300 jobs); general medical and surgical hospitals (9,300 jobs); nursing and residential care facilities (6,500 jobs).

For the period 2000-2010, California employment projections show that total nonfarm employment is expected to increase by at least 3.2 million jobs, or 22.2 percent. Although growth is projected for every industry, some job loss will occur in smaller sectors of mining, manufacturing, and transportation.

California's population is 36.5 million residents, according to the California Department of Finance's preliminary estimates for January 2003. These new data reflect a 5.0 percent increase over the 2000 Census data that recorded California's total population at 33.9 million.

An economic index compares actual economic activity to long-term trends. It can be helpful for monitoring state economies; comparing the length, depth, and timing of recessions at the state level; and providing a composite measure of monthly economic activity at the state level. This particular index is based on nonfarm payroll employment, the unemployment rate, average hours worked in manufacturing, and real wage and salary disbursements. These four elements are then calculated to achieve the data below, charted from 1979 to the current year. While the overall growth trend of the data is evident, the chart also reflects economic downturns, such as recessions experienced during the early 1980s, again in the early 1990s, and more recently, 2001. The index can also be used to examine other effects, such as: business cycles within the state; national economic forces on the state; and the state's overall economic activity on state fiscal conditions, poverty or in-migration.

California's Economic Activity
(January 1979 to May 2003)



General information provided by "Working Paper 02-7: Consistent Economic Indexes for the 50 States" by Theodore M. Crone, Research Department, Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia (May 2002). Data can be accessed through www.phil.frb.org.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Local

San Benito County
www.san-benito.ca.us

San Benito County One-Stop Career Center Online
www.sbcjobs.org



Statewide

Employment Development Department (EDD)
www.edd.ca.gov

EDD's Labor Market Information Division (LMID)
www.calmis.ca.gov

California Department of Finance
www.dof.ca.gov

California Training & Education Providers (CTEP)
www.soicc.ca.gov/ctep

Counting California
countingcalifornia.cdlib.org

National

Department of Labor
Bureau of Labor Statistics
www.bls.gov

Department of Labor
Employment and Training Administration
www.doleta.gov

Occupational Information Network (O*NET)
<http://online.onetcenter.org>

U.S. Census Bureau
www.census.gov

FedStats
www.fedstats.gov

